Purchase of power plant from abroad by Reliance Industries.

1371. SHRI A.G. KULKARNI:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASANT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express of 8th September, 1986 regarding import of a power plant of 25 MW capacity by the Reliance Industries;

(b) if so, whether customs duty was duly paid on the plant;

(c) what was the price assumed for charging the customs duty; and

(d) whether his Minisry has examined as to whether the power plant consists of 3 boilers and 3 gas turbines of West German origin or it is from John Brown of U.K. and what was the quantum of foerign exchange permitted for purchase of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) M|s. Reliance Industries Limited have cleared four consignments of steam generation equipment and have paid the Import Duty provisionally assessed by the Custom Authorities at Bombay. 12 other import consignments are under clearance. The value of the four consignments as declared by the Importer is approx. Rs. 8.23 crores. The foreign suppliers indicated are M|s. John Brown Engineers and Constructors Limited; U.K.

closure of dailies run by National Herald management

1372. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to starred Question 185 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th May, 1986 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Herald management has closed down all editions of its dailies; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether the workers and journalists have been paid statutory compensation as per rules, if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of employees who have not been paid dues as per rules;

(d) whether the management of National Herald obtained statutory permission to close down its units; if so, when;

(e) if not, whether any prosecution has been initiated in this regard; and

(f) whether Government propose to restart these two newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (f) According to information received from the Delhi Administration, the management have suspended publication of the Delhi editions of 'National Herald' and 'Quami Awaz' from 19.4.86. There has been no closure of the establishment declared in accordance with the relevant provision of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Information in respect of establishments publishing the Lucknow editions of the two dailies which fall within the purview of the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the appropriate authority under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 is not available.

Raids on New Tobacco Company

1373. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the news-item published in the "Illustrated Weekly" on September 28, 1986 and in the "Onlooker" on September 15—30, 1986 relating to the raids on New Tobacco Company;